(b) the names of NTPC projects which are running on Naphtha;

(c) the names of the proejct for which ultimate fuel LNG is envisaged;

(d) the reasons for use of this particular fuel; and

(e) the reasons for running some of the NTPC projects behind schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Presently none of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) gas power plants are running on Liquified Natural Gas (LNG).

(b) Of NTPC's power plants only Kayamkulam CCPP Stage-I in Kerala is operating with Naphtha as the primary fuel. However, NTPC is using Naphtha as an alternate fuel for its gas based power plants at Kawas, Anta and Auraiya also.

(c) The expansion stages of Combined Cycle Power Plants (CCPP) at Kawas and Jhanor-Gandhar in Gujarat, Anta in Rajasthan and Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh are planned based on LNG as the ultimate fuel with Naphtha to be used as the bridge fuel during the initial Period of operation till such time LNG is made available. Even Kayamkulam CCPP will have LNG as the ultimate fuel.

(d) Natural gas is cleaner fuel for power generation and gas based power plants have short gestation period as compared to coal based or hydro power plants. LNG is nothing but natural gas which is liquified to facilitate its transportation and has been considered as ultimate fuel for NTPC's expansion units.

(e) None of the NTPC's on going projects are presently running behind schedule.

Counter Guarantee and for PPA Private Firms

4826. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Power Purchase Agreement has been signed by the Central and state Government with the private power producers and any counter guarantee agreement also signed by the Central Government with any of these private firms;

(b) if so,the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for PPA and counter guarantee for these private firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The Central Government has not signed any Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with any Independent Power Producer. The PPA is a contract between the state Electricity Board (SEB) and the IPP in which the modalities for purchase/sale of power and allocation of various risks are negotiated between the two parties.

Government of India enunciated a private power policy in 1991 aimed at encouraging the flow of private capital to the power sector. This was due, among other reasons, to insufficient resource generation and dwindling budgetary support in the face of very large investment requirements in the power sector. To instil confidence in the private power developers, GOL considered issuing counter guarantees to private power projects that were identified as developing-rapidly. This counter guarantee was a financial comfort to the investors that, in case the SEBs failed to pay for the power purchased from private generators in accordance with the PPA and the State Government thereafter did not honour its guarantee, Gol would make payments and deduct the sum from the Central devolution to the State.

The Gol counter guarantee scheme was developed as a transitory measure to encourage private investment and it was decided in 1994 to extend Gol counter guarantee to following eight initial projects that has been cleared for bringing in foreign investment in the power sector:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated completed cost (as per techno-economic clearance given by CEA)
1.	Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project, Andhra Pradesh	1040	US$ 943.75 million + Rs. 1324.993 crores (@ 1 US$lRs.35.00)
2.	Neyveli (Single Unit Lignite based) Thermal Power Project, Tamil Nadu.	250	US$ 261.59 million + Rs. 501.10 crores (@ 1 US$lRs.31.50)
3.	Mangalore Thermal power Project, Karnataka.	1013.2	US$ 751.574 million + Rs. 1580.89 crores (@ 1 US$lRs.31.50)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Estimated completed cost (as per techno-economic clearance given by CEA)
4.	Bhadravati Thermal Power Project, Maharashtra.	1082	Rs. 5187 Crores.
5.	Ib Valley Thermal Power Project, Units A&B, Orissa.	500	US$ 326.02 million + Rs.983.90 crores (@ 1 US$|Rs.42.50)
6.	Jegurupadu Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, Andhra Pradesh.	216	Rs. 827 crores
7.	Godavari Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, Andhra Pradesh.	208	Rs. 748.43 crores
8.	Dabhol Combined Cycle Gas Turbine, Phase-I, Maharashtra.	740	Rs. 9051.27 crores (includes cost of Phase-II of the Project)

Counter Guarantee of Government of India has been extended to Jegurupadu Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (216 MW) of M/s GVK Industries Limited, Ib Valley Thermal Power Project (500 MW) of Ib Valley Power Private Limited and Dabhol Combined Cycle Gas Project (Phase-I) 740 MW of M/s Dabhol Power Compny. M/ s Spectrum Power Generation Limited withdrew their request for counter guarantee for their 208 MW Godavari Combined Cycle Gas Turbine in Andhra Pradesh.

On 16.5.1998, the Government approved extension of counter-guarantee in the case of the Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW) of M/s Hinduja National Power Company Limited (HNPCL) in Andhra Pradesh, Bhadravati Thermal Power Project (1082 MW) of M/s Central India Power Compnay (CIPCO) in Maharashtra and the 250 MW single unit lignite based Neyveli Thermal Power Project of M/s ST-CMS Electric Company in Tamil Nadu, through a revised procedure. Government of India counter-guarantee to these projects have been issued in August, 1999.

The Ib Valley project was re-negotiated by the Government of Orissa before construction could commence and, therefore, techno-economic clearance was issued afresh to this project on 26.12.1999. Issue of counter Guarantee of Government of India was approved in the case of this project and the Mangalore Thermal Power Project of M/s Cogentrix energy Inc., on 22.12.1999.